

Pershing Joins In Legion Plea For Disabled

Daniels, Lejeune and Other
Notables Hear Galbraith
Urge Proper Care for
\$4,000 Sick Veterans

\$5,000,000 Fund Sought

National Executive Committee
Wants K. of C. Gift
for Soldier Relief Work

WASHINGTON, Feb. 8.—National Executive Committee of the American Legion, including Secretary of the War, General Pershing, Major General Lejeune, commander of the Marine Corps, and Admiral R. E. Conner, chief of naval operations, heard a stirring plea to-night by Frederick W. Galbraith Jr., national commander of the American Legion, for justice for disabled and ex-service men. The Legion executive's appeal was made at a reception given to him and members of the national executive committee at the National Press Club, and he described vividly the sufferings of veterans who are being cared for in hospitals of inadequate type.

There are 23,000 disabled veterans in this country," he declared, "who are being improperly cared for because of the deplorable lack of hospitalization, and there are 11,000 other veterans who should be in hospitals but cannot be because there is no room for them."

Tells of Harding's Pledge
Commander Galbraith suggested that the government utilize hospital space in army post hospitals, or take over barracks in the South where the soldiers of the regular army housed themselves could be quartered in tents.

President-elect Harding, it became known to-night, has taken a definite stand on the question of caring for disabled veterans.

"I discussed this question with Senator Harding," Commander Galbraith continued, "and he said that, while he would make no statement now, which might be misconstrued as a criticism of the Administration, he intended upon taking office to make this issue his first business of importance and see that an adequate program was adopted; that the veteran is treated generously, as he should be."

General Pershing, Secretary Daniels and Major General Lejeune all addressed the Legion delegates. General Pershing made the hospitalization and rehabilitation problem the sole topic of his address, urging the Legion to carry out its plan to see that full justice is done.

Creation of a \$5,000,000 fund for the American Legion, with which that veterans' organization may immediately place its wounded and disabled comrades of the World War, may result from the refusal of the Legion's National Executive Committee to accept a gift of that amount from the Knights of Columbus for the purpose of erecting a war memorial in Washington.

John G. Emery, National Vice-Commander of the Legion, and two other national committeemen will confer within a day or two with representa-

tives of the Knights of Columbus with a view to convincing that organization that it should make the gift without restrictive provisions.

The proposal rejected by the Legion provided that a joint commission representing the Knights of Columbus, the Legion and one other organization administer the affairs of the memorial and supervise its construction. It also provided that a certain firm of architects be awarded the contract to build it.

Agreement Discovered
The Tribune's representative has discovered a document which, on the face of it, would make it impossible for the gift to be made or accepted in its present form. It is an agreement, signed on December 24, 1918, by eleven organizations, among them the Knights of Columbus, in which it was stipulated that:

"The seven organizations shall severally assume, as nearly as may be their respective proportionate shares, responsibility for work to be done and all expenditures of money be strictly in accord with their respective war work activities; and none of the fund shall be expended for general non-war work or for permanent structures, establishments, or for endowments."

The fund referred to is the money raised in the joint war relief drive beginning November 11, 1918, of which each organization received a stipulated share, and which all combined to make a success. The provision against "permanent structures" would seem to preclude the use of the money for the proposed memorial.

When Chairman Emery's attention was called to this agreement, he said he would introduce it at his conference, and also would propose that the money be given outright for a survey of the soldier victims of the war. This diversion of the money would be in keeping with the agreement, and would contribute it to a cause which at this moment is of greater concern to the Legion than any other.

Politics Again Defeated
Still another effort was made to-day at the executive committee meeting to place the Legion on record politically, and once again the veterans voted without dissent to defeat it. It was a protest by representatives of Kansas and Nebraska against a ruling by National Commander Frederick W. Galbraith Jr., in which he refused to permit those departments to campaign, as the American Legion against the Nonpartisan League in their states.

The national executive committee was asked to override the commander, but rejected the plea with little debate. They even refused to adopt a resolution condemning A. C. Townley, organizer of the league, and his assistants, fearing that such action might be misconstrued as a slap at a political party.

Revelations made in the report of the national finance committee should prove interesting to all Legionnaires. The finances of the Legion are not in flourishing condition and are causing the executives much concern.

"Grover Cleveland Bergdall and his recent escapade in Germany received

some attention from the committee," when Thomas M. Miller, of Delaware, introduced a resolution expressing regret that "this government saw fit to apologize to the Berlin government, with which we are still formally at war, for the recent attempt to capture said Bergdall on German soil."

Past National Commander Franklin D'Olier, of Pennsylvania, introduced a resolution providing for the erection of an Inter-Allied memorial in France. It was adopted unanimously.

At its meeting to-night the committee decided to suggest to Congress that it confer the Congressional Medal of Honor on the unknown French and British soldiers who were buried at Paris and London, respectively, as a mark of honor to the armies of those countries. It is said that Representative Royal Johnson and Senator Underhill have consented to present such a bill in Congress.

Special Dispatch to The Tribune

ATLANTA, Feb. 8.—The leaders of the National League of Women Voters met here to-day for the third regional conference and the last regional convention. They declared war on boss rule of political parties and laid plans for educating the women of the South to be intelligent, self-directed voters.

More prominent women were assembled at the conference than were ever gathered together at one time and one place in the history of the South, according to Mrs. Julian Bailey, of Aiken, S. C., chairman of the third regional, in calling the conference to order. They included the chairman and vice-chairman of the national league and the chairmen of the nine Southern states in the third region, Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Mississippi, Alabama, Georgia, Tennessee, Florida and Louisiana.

Miss Katherine Ludington, of Hartford, Conn., first regional chairman of the league, declared the league has two forces which it must fight. The first of these is reactionary, she said, and the second is the machine element in political parties.

The necessity of reaching every woman in the South enfranchised under the Nineteenth Amendment and of carrying to them the message of their citizenship and their obligations and responsibilities therein was the subject of an address by Mrs. Maud Wood Park, of Washington, D. C., national chairman.

Greeks Said to Organize
Army to Attack Turks

ROME, Feb. 8.—Seventy thousand Greek troops are being organized for a great offensive in Asia Minor, it is said in reports received here from Smyrna. The Turkish Nationalists are preparing to meet the offensive and say they will be able to offer a stubborn resistance.

Victim Charges Coal Combine In Washington

Senate Committee Plans an
Inquiry Into Story of
Dealer Who Says He Was
Forced Out of Business

Agents To Be Quizzed

Witness Defied Order to
Raise Prices, He Asserts:
Fuel Supply Was Cut Off

WASHINGTON, Feb. 8.—Specific charges that a combination exists in the coal trade to maintain high prices of coal in this city and to shut off the supply of coal to dealers who cut rates were put before the Senate committee considering the Calder coal regulation bill to-day by John C. L. Ritter, who said the combination put him out of business.

Chairman La Follette ruled that the committee would go further with the inquiry after Senator Reed, Democrat, of Missouri, declared that the witness had "established a prima facie case of conspiracy to violate anti-trust laws on the part of a local association," and moved that the Department of Justice agents be summoned to explain their attitude in the matter.

He had been informed by one of his 1919 customers that the Coal Men's Association held a meeting at which, his informant said, "they put you right out of the business. You aren't a coal man at all any more."

Another man, representing a coal mining company, suggested to him, Ritter continued, that he "raise his

price 25 cents a ton each week until he got only 10 or 15 cents below the association price," which was a figure fixed during 1919 and 1920, according to the witness, by an association of local coal dealers. He refused, he said, and after April, 1920, he could not get any coal.

"There wasn't a man in the country who would contract to give me my next year's supply," Ritter asserted, "and I had to do business with any gypsy I could find who would sell me dirt for coal." He didn't lose any money, he said, but did "have a lot of fun."

Ritter told of having a man in his own employ "who reported every day on all my business to the association" and having "a Department of Justice agent along with me for so many days they thought he was working for me, too." No prosecution had been instituted under anti-trust laws, Ritter said, but a civil suit had been brought, although his attorney had informed him, he said, that "this bunch is too strong for us."

Senators discussed the charges for some minutes, temporarily excusing Ritter, and Chairman La Follette ruled that corroborative witnesses would be called first to-morrow, and examined. Senator Reed insisted that the Federal agents be brought in, to see if "the other man has a story, too," but the point was left for later decision.

New York Republicans
Keen to Represent U. S.

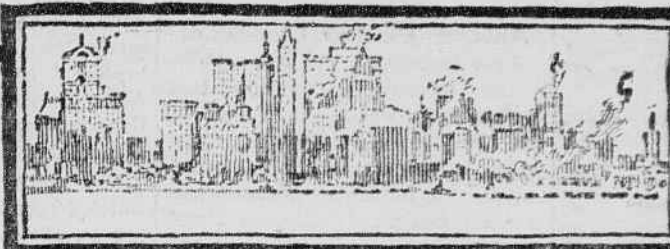
Wadsworth to Take Long List of
Would-Be Diplomats to Con-
ference With Harding

From The Tribune's Washington Bureau
WASHINGTON, Feb. 8.—A list of New Yorkers desiring to be ambassadors or ministers, long enough to fill every diplomatic post in Harding's gift, and then some, was gone over carefully to-night by Senators Wadsworth and Calder, just before the departure of Mr. Wadsworth for St. Augustine for a conference with the President-elect.

Besides the "diplomatic list," there was another long list of New Yorkers who would like to be appointed to important places in Washington, such for instance as assistants to the various Cabinet officers. There are literally hundreds of names on the two lists.

These positions, of course, are in addition to what might be called the regular patronage places, such as

United States District Attorneys, marshals, postmasters, and other Federal positions within the state, about which Mr. Harding has left no doubt that he will follow the recommendations of the New York Senators.



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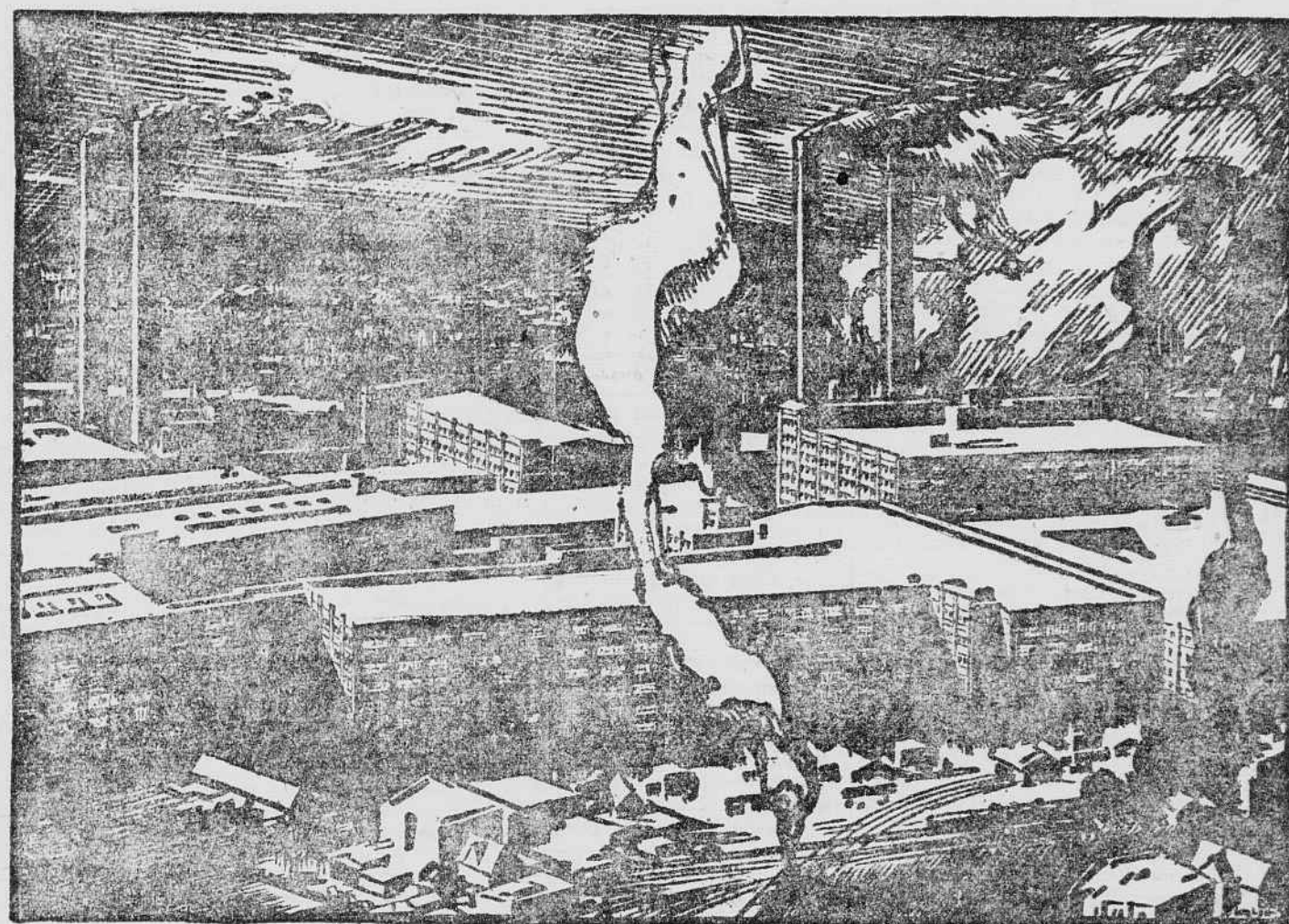
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tury ago, Goodrich has built a city. Not alone the huge city of brick and stone and steel which houses the great plant in Akron—but a city which comprises the entire Goodrich organization everywhere in the world.

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